

The author displays much conservatism, both in respect to the admission of alleged stragglers, and in the matter of subspecies. Thus a number of North American species often entered in British lists are ruled out on the ground that the specimens taken were in all probability escaped cage-birds, or "assisted" wanderers, or as "not likely to be genuine visitors." His position on the question of races is shown by his treatment of the British Tits, in several of which he admits the existence of "climatic races," but declines to give them recognition in nomenclature.

Three maps accompany this excellent work. The first is a 'Bathy-ographical map of the British Isles and surrounding seas'; the second is a map of Europe, also bathy-ographical, and the third is a 'North Polar Chart,' useful as showing the range of birds breeding in the Arctic regions.—J. A. A.

**Notes on Sport and Ornithology.\***—His Imperial and Royal Highness, the late Crown Prince Rudolf, of Austria, was well known for his enthusiastic interest in ornithology. His 'Notes on Sport and Ornithology' is a series of pleasantly written sketches of ornithological expeditions, followed by a number of more formal ornithological papers. The first of these sketches is entitled, 'Fifteen Days on the Danube,' and occupies the first 227 pages of the book. Accompanying the Prince on this journey were, among others, the late Dr. Eugen von Homeyer, the younger Brehm, Hodek, father and son, and other more or less well-known naturalists and sportsmen, besides a retinue of hunters, guides and valets. The trip was made in the steamer 'Vienna,' which left Pesth with the party on the 22d of April, 1878. The special object of the journey was the solution of the question of whether the 'Stein' and Golden Eagles were or were not distinct species. The narrative here given recounts in a delightful way the experiences and successes of each day's hunt, giving incidentally a graphic picture of the low, somewhat marshy forests of the lower Danube, and their feathered inhabitants. Eagles and Vultures, and the larger birds of prey generally, together with Cormorants, Storks, and Herons, were the chief objects of quest, the smaller birds coming in for only a small share of attention. Among the ornithological results of the expedition were 9 Vultures, 29 Eagles, 24 Hawks, 8 Cormorants, 12 Storks, 15 Herons, and various smaller birds, the total numbering over 200 specimens and about 70 species. Much interesting information is given respecting the habits of many of the species mentioned, particularly of the Vultures and Eagles.

Next follow 'Extracts from a Journey in the East' (pp. 229-396), describing an ornithological trip in Lower Egypt and in Palestine, made in February, March, and April, 1881. The narrative is replete with interest-

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ing notes of travel and sport, largely ornithological. Over 1000 specimens were taken, representing about 125 species of birds and 15 species of mammals.

About 50 pages are devoted to 'Ornithological Sketches from Spain,' and relate mainly to Vultures and Eagles, of which eight or nine species are more or less formally treated. 'Ornithological Sketches from the East' seems to be a systematic, annotated list of the birds observed during the 'Journey in the East' mentioned above.

The numerous minor papers give notes on birds observed in the vicinity of Vienna, during January 1 to June 1, 1882, November, 1883, February, 1884, and December, 1885, and include two papers on 'Hybrid Grouse,' and an annotated list of birds observed on the coast of Dalmatia and Istria. An excellent index concludes this very entertaining book of nearly 650 pages.—J. A. A.

**Doan's Birds of West Virginia.\***—The writer of this list spent the time from August 1 until November, 1888, travelling through the State stopping for a few days each at some fifteen different places. He says:—"During the last five weeks in the field the inclemency of the weather was such that it was impossible for me to do any collecting whatever; and as the season was far advanced and the remaining time short, my explorations were necessarily hurried. Much valuable time was lost in travelling in order to reach all the different districts, many of which are widely separated and remote from railroads. By far the most productive and satisfactory work was done at Buckhannon and vicinity during the month of August. The following list [of 200 species] contains all species that I personally identified, together with a few additions from Mr. William Brewster's paper on the 'Birds of Ritchie County,' and W. E. D. Scott's 'Birds of Kanawha County.'" He also acknowledges his "indebtedness to Dr. J. R. Mathers and Mrs. E. L. Day, of Buckhannon, for valuable notes on several species with which I did not meet." In spite of the fact that his field work was all done later than August 1, the author does not hesitate to enter many species as summer residents, and in the same bold spirit he gives others as winter residents, either at a guess, or upon some authority which he does not quote. Among all these unreliable statements are one or two records that would be valuable, if we dared believe them. There are others that are quite easy to believe, as the assertion that the Woodcock is "a lover of low damp places," or that "Turkey Buzzards feed upon carrion and are very useful birds."

Cynical readers may be amused to notice that, according to the author's observations, "in eastern Pennsylvania" various of the insect-eating species still adhere with surprising fidelity to the diet prescribed for them some years ago by Mr. T. G. Gentry.

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